

**TOWN OF UNDERHILL
ENERGY COMMITTEE
Underhill Town Hall
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, Feb 14, 2018
Final**

Meeting called to Order 6:35 pm

Quorum established: Underhill Energy Committee (UEC) members in attendance: Peter Bennett (PB), Nicole Bourassa (NB), Michael Oman (MO), Jerry Adams (JA), Tom Moore (TM), Ruth Julianelle (RJ)

Adjustments to Agenda

Added update of Facebook page status.

Public Comment Period

There were no public comments.

Reviewed/Approved Minutes from Jan 10, 2018

No changes; motion by TM to approve; passed unanimously.

Reviewed Solar Landfill Proposal status

PB reported on meeting with Selectboard (SB)

We recommended signing option with GLG if SB determines that

- 1. it wants to have an array on the landfill (conserved land)*
- 2. the terms are acceptable, or, it negotiates for better terms*
- 3. the financial return (max \$5000) is worth it*
- 4. it has no other questions for the UEC*
- 5. any legal issues (town's lawyer) are answered*

SB does not feel comfortable approving solar array on conserved land without community input. Would like Conservation Commission to conduct survey outside Town Meeting. Asked UEC to provide input to survey. They want this as a next step before proceeding further with proposal.

UEC members expressed doubt about value of survey both in terms of a) adequately informing participants of details of proposal and b) valid statistical representation of town residents.

MO pointed out that Town Garage was placed on Crane Brook Reservation District after it was formed.

Discussed how to proceed on revision of Town energy plan

MO reviewed next steps in our role in devising the plan. He pointed out that:

- There is as yet no regional plan from the CCRPC;
- Ultimately Planning Commission and town zoning and planning director have responsibility for creating the plan;
- To assist them, UEC agreed that we propose a joint task force of Planning Commission, zoning and planning director, UEC members and perhaps others to work on the plan;
- We need to discuss how they/we best use the offer of 50 hours of technical assistance from the CCRPC;
- The information the CCRPC is looking for from towns is largely a “box checking” exercise.

PB agreed to connect with Planning Commission re formation of task force.

Facebook page for UEC

NB has taken first steps on creation of Facebook page. She has received pictures of solar installations by committee members.

We agreed to take a closer look prior to making it available to public access.

Better Building by Design Conference

TM reported on his attendance of the meeting. Said there were excellent presentations of various topics and felt that the ones most valuable to the UEC would be those dealing with retrofitting weatherization techniques to existing houses.

Committee Operations

PB mentioned that in next meeting he hopes the committee can discuss:

solar resolution – should we revitalize
how much time do members have
is there a better way to get stuff done

Next regularly scheduled meeting – March 14, 2018

Meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Submitted by

Peter Bennett